

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2003-340-C - ORDER NO. 2003-747
DECEMBER 29, 2003

IN RE: Application of Palmetto Rural Telephone)	ORDER GRANTING
Cooperative, Inc. for Approval to Allow Free)	REQUEST TO WAIVE
Local Service for Certain Subscribers for the)	BASIC LOCAL
Month of December, 2003)	EXCHANGE SERVICE
)	RATES

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the request of Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Palmetto") to waive basic local exchange service rates for the month of December, 2003. The Commission considered Palmetto's request at the Commission's regularly scheduled meeting on November 25, 2003, and as detailed below, the Commission grants Palmetto's request that Palmetto be allowed to provide free local service to the following categories of subscribers for the month of December, 2003: Business One Party, Residence One Party, Data Lines, PBX Trunks, Key System Lines, and Customer Owned Paystations.¹

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Palmetto is a telephone utility as defined in S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-10(6) (1976) operating within the State of South Carolina under authority of the

¹ Palmetto informs the Commission that the number of subscribers for each category as well as the amount of revenue associated with each category was determined by subscriber counts as of October 1, 2003, and that actual subscriber counts in December could vary slightly from those counts reported in Palmetto's request.

Commission, and Palmetto's rates and charges and rate of return are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

2. Palmetto requests that the Commission allow Palmetto to waive the monthly basic exchange service rates for the month of December, 2003, for the following classes of subscribers: Business One Party, Residence One Party, Data Lines, PBX Trunks, Key System Lines, and Customer Owned Paystations.

3. The intent of Palmetto's request is to allow free local service to all subscribers during the month of December, 2003.²

4. The Commission finds that Palmetto's request is in the public interest as all subscribers will benefit from Palmetto's request in that the basic exchange service rates for all of Palmetto's subscribers will be waived.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission concludes that Palmetto's request to waive the monthly basic exchange service rates for the month of December, 2003, is in the public interest.

2. The Commission concludes that Palmetto may provide free basic exchange service to the following classes of subscribers: Business One Party, Residence One Party, Data Lines, PBX Trunks, Key System Lines, and Customer Owned Paystations, is in the public interest.

3. The Commission concludes that the public interest requires that the revenues associated with the waived charges be imputed should Palmetto file a rate case which includes December, 2003, in the test year. Therefore, the Commission concludes

² Palmetto's request applies only to the monthly basic exchange service rate for each subscriber, and the request does not apply to any charges other than the monthly basic exchange local service rate.

that Palmetto shall track the revenues foregone by the requested waiver and that Palmetto shall include the revenues associated with the waived charges in any rate case filing that includes the month of December, 2003, in the test year.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED THAT:

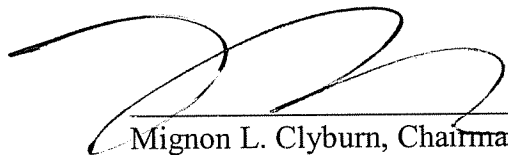
1. Palmetto is permitted to waive the monthly basic exchange service rates for the month of December, 2003, for the following classes of subscribers: Business One Party, Residence One Party, Data Lines, PBX Trunks, Key System Lines, and Customer Owned Paystations.

2. Palmetto shall track the revenues foregone by the requested waiver

3. Palmetto shall impute the revenues associated with the waived charges in any rate case filing that includes the month of December, 2003, in the test year.

4. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Mignon L. Clyburn, Chairman

ATTEST:


Bruce F. Duke, Deputy Executive Director

(SEAL)